

### **REMARKS**

Applicants have received and reviewed an Office Action dated May 19, 2006. By way of response, Applicants have amended claim 1 and have canceled claims 9-10 without prejudice. Claims 1-8, and 11-13 are pending. Applicants request consideration of the following remarks.

For the reasons given below, Applicants submit that the amended claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

#### **Claim Amendments**

Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite "the composition comprising about 30 wt-% to about 70 wt-% of at least one glycol". This amendment is supported by original claim 9 and the specification at least at page 5, lines 12-13.

Applicants have also amended claim 1 to recite "a stainless steel surface". This amendment is supported by the specification at least at page 3, lines 3-4.

Applicants respectfully argue claim 1 and its dependents are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited.

#### **Claim rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 112**

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite "a stainless steel surface". Accordingly, claim 1 fully complies with 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

#### **Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

Claims 1-8 and 10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Oda et al.* (US 3,709,824). Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Claim 9 was not subject to this rejection. Independent claim 1 has been amended to incorporate features recited in claim 9.

In view of the above comments, this rejection no longer applies and withdrawal is respectfully requested.

**Claim rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 103**

Claims 9, and 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Oda et al.* (US 3,709,824). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

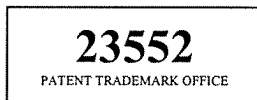
The Office Action acknowledges *Oda et al.* does not specifically indicate the composition with the glycol content as instantly claimed. The Office Action then asserts that since *Oda et al.* teach that glycol increases the viscosity of the aqueous solution and inhibits a diffusion of metal ions which are corroded by the aqueous solution and make the corrosion more uniform, one of skill in the art would have found it obvious to adjust the content of glycol in order to optimize the treatment of a particular stainless steel surface. Applicants respectfully disagree with this assertion. Furthermore, corrosion alteration is not the same as gloss enhancement.

It is respectfully pointed out that *Oda et al.* specifically teach the solution preferably contain about 10-100 g/liter of water soluble polymer; e.g. polyethylene glycol, polypropylene glycol, polyvinyl alcohol. See col. 2, ll. 25-27. *Oda et al.* further teach the volume of the solution is balanced by water to 1 liter. See col. 3, l. 22, and Tables 1-3. In view of this, the wt% of the water soluble polymer of *Oda et al.* would be 1-10 wt%, since there are 1000 grams in a liter. *Oda et al.* fail to teach or suggest a composition for imparting gloss to a stainless steel surface including about 30 wt-% to about 70 wt-% of at least one glycol as recited by independent claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that *Oda et al.* fails to teach or suggest the presently claimed invention, and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**Conclusion**

In summary, Applicant submits that each of claims 1-8, and 11-13 is in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the telephone number listed below, if the Examiner believes that doing so will expedite prosecution of this patent.

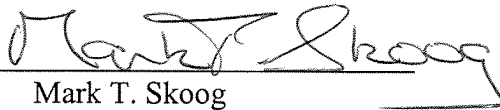


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Respectfully submitted,

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